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The following address was prepared by Andrew Price, for the meeting of the Daughters of the American Revolution, at October fifth, at Point Pleasant on the occasion of the 154th anniversary of the first battle of the Revolution:

To the Daughters of the American Revolution:

It is as a Son of the Revolution from the mountains of West Virginia and as a student of West Virginia history that I make this address to you on the battlefield where the Virginians stood and inaugurated the movement that resulted in the formation of the government of the United States. And I propose as a subject to consider the way the West Virginians have carried themselves in the crises that have confronted the nation from time to time.

My research has convinced me that in all of the critical situations that have arisen that the action of the mountaineers of the Western Waters has proven the decisive factor in the continuation of the government of the United States and it is their clear heads and courageous hearts that has kept us and preserved us as a nation.

I wish to call your attention to certain racial distinctions that the mountain people have as compared to our estimable cousins of the lowlands. In a word it might be summed up that the people of the mountains are wild as compared to the tame people of a more luxurious setting.

But there are many things that account for the characteristics of the mountain people resulting in structural and mental changes. It is a historical fact that the mountaineers were taller and more powerful than the people of the lowlands. And this change was often observed in the first generation in the hills. It was probably due to the free, open life, better health, abundance of food, necessity for strong and active men and women, and the mineral quality of the drinking water.

The mountains grew tall and beautiful women. Their mental qualifications, their ability to reason and decide, their skill in warfare, and their courage came from an intensive training received in the course of the longest, bloodiest, and most destructive war with the savage Indians. It is a survival of the fittest. They had seen signs that twisted and developed the brain beyond anything that ordinary terrors of life can do.

It was a race of people where every family had acted upon its own impulse to enter the dense forests of the Western Waters close some adorable spot as a home and an estate, and hold it against the most subtle, cruel and relentless foes.

It was this conditioned gentry that faced the first act of the Revolution, when with the groundswell of liberty and independence making itself felt in all the colonies, it was necessary to discipline the Indian tribes beyond the Ohio river, so that the western part of Virginia could extend its borders, and the large and important settlements already there, could turn their faces to the east and take up the pressing business asserting their rights against the King of England, who had obtained a personal grant for all of the land between the crest of the Allegheny mountain and the Ohio River.

This deed to the king had proved to be unpopular both with the Indians who made it, and the colony of Virginia. It was more than that to the mountain people. It threatened their whole existence. In an effort to circumvent the action of the king made under color of the law, the land hungry tried to meet it with legal measures and put their surveying parties in the disputed area stretching roughly from the Greenbrier River to the central part of Kentucky. This caused the formation of the most formidable army ever assembled by the Indian tribes. This movement was met by an army under Gen. Andrew Lewis from the three counties of Augusta, Botetourt and Fincastle, a territory comprising a large part of Pennsylvania, Virginia, West Virginia and all of Kentucky, as well as parts of North Carolina and Tennessee. From this vast domain, the army assembled at Lewisburg and marched to Point Pleasant and fought a battle with the army under Cornstalk, and won a victory that insured the western course of empire. As a result of this battle, the army before it disbanded at the mouth of the Hocking river, issued the first declaration of independence under the date of the Fifth Day of November, 1774. This army dissolved without plunder or reward and the warriors went back to their homes, and to this day they have never received anything for the campaign.

This I consider the first crisis of the Republic. The second crisis that I wish to call your attention to is the dark hour in the war of the Revolution. It will be remembered that after the declaration of independence had been signed, that the western people demanded the right to be considered as the fourteenth colony under the name of West Virginia, both on account of the numbers involved and because of the fact that the people of that section were as of one mind and one heart for independence. This influence extended with the Alleghenies far into the south. Along the seaboard the sentiment was more or less evenly divided. The very considerable number of loyalists formed a party that in some important sections were in the majority under the name of Tories, and this fact has been pretty well covered up by the expert treatment of the most distinguished historians. In fact the sea board has taken most of the glory of that great appeal to arms. The fact is that it was to the hills that American leaders looked for help.

The zero hour came after the war had been prosecuted for some time with indifferent success. In a general meeting of the war board the question of submitting to the mother country and laying down our arms was gravely considered, and it is the interpretation of the ablest historians that the decision rested with Washington. Washington told them that the colonies could not be conquered. That he could withdraw his army into the mountains of West Augusta, and never be taken. He referred to the spirit of the people of the country west of the divide.

"Give me but a banner and let me place it upon the mountains of West Augusta, and I will rally around me men, who will lift my bleeding country from the dust, and set her free." In no other part of the country, I might add, were the homes of the Americans so exposed as on the Western Waters, and no where else were the lives of the women and children in such jeopardy during the war. The Indian allies of the British government harried the country from the mountain to the river and killed thousands. Those terrible experiences definitely marked the border, and to this day we take our pleasures sadly. The year 1777 has been called the "Bloody Sevens." It is doubtful whether any people on earth ever had a more severe training.

In this address I can but touch on various periods as I want to group them in one short address as a food for thought and research. The third crisis came upon the question of adopting the Constitution of the United States. After the Revolution, the Articles of Confederation had been entered into which amounted to friendly treaties among the thirteen colonies. It was soon seen that this gentleman's agreement was not adequate and that the colonies were drifting apart and that unless some change was made that the dearly bought independence would avail the individual nothing.

The thinkers of the nation produced the Constitution which was an agreement to form a nation and at the same time preserve the identity of the colonies, by a division of the powers and duties. It was an experiment in free government abroad and on which the sentiment of the colonies was divided.

In submitting the Constitution to the states, the position of Virginia was one that rendered it vital to its success or failure. It was the most powerful state, the largest, and most advantageously situated. It lay at the seaward states. It would have been impossible for the states to unite without Virginia. And in Virginia the people were evenly divided. Thomas Jefferson led the fight for and Patrick Henry against the Constitution, which indicated the division between the mountain people and the people of the lower levels. The convention at Richmond adopted the Constitution by a vote of 89 to 7, and once again the mountain people saved the day. I do not mean to say that Jefferson was present at Richmond during the meeting of the convention in that city to consider the finished work of the fathers of their country, but from his station in France, he managed the fight with his clear cool judgment through such men as Madison and other staunch republicans.

I do not feel that I should number the Whiskey Insurrection as a crisis, but at the same time I do not think that it should be ignored. In 1794 the people of the western part of Pennsylvania rebelled against an act of Congress levying a tax of nine to twenty-five cents a gallon on whiskey, thus taking away most of the income of farmers of the west, who depended upon turning their grain into whiskey so that it could be transported to market. The part that West Virginia played in that test of strength so that the rebellion did not extend south of the Mason and Dixon line is due to the intelligence of the Virginians and their ability to understand the nature of the Constitution and the meaning of the word nation. In addition to refusing to respond favorably to the David Bradford proclamation the Virginians assembled an army of about a thousand men at Moorefield and marched to the disaffected area and put down the rebellion. If the rule that an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure, it may be that Virginians who put down this organized insubordination to the weak and new formed government performed one of the most signal acts of courage and good sense for their country.

I will state as the fourth great crisis that threatened the country, the Aaron Burr conspiracy. There is nothing more dangerous to a nation than a powerful and a disappointed and an unscrupulous politician. There is no question in my mind but that Burr meant to dismember the country and cut it in two, and set up an empire of his own, and that he would have succeeded if it had not been for the prompt action taken by the citizens at Parkersburg.

The action of the loyal militia has never received credit for the disruption of the schemes of Aaron Burr. In 1806, Aaron Burr was forming a navy and assembling an army on the Ohio river at Blennerhassett island. The expedition was well under way when the citizens of West Virginia acted.

Most historians treat the Burr episode as having been eped by his arrest on a charge of treason. Had it not been for the vigilant Virginians who saw forces assembling and declared an alarming situation of existing affairs in this Western Country, Burr might have succeeded in setting up his empire by joining Mexico with the southwestern portion of the United States. One hundred and sixty-eight men signed a paper to support the Constitution and the Government until effective steps could be taken by the President of the United States of America. These men formed a volunteer independent corps. This action by the citizens of Wood County was taken on October 6, 1806. Under date of November 27, 1806, President Jefferson issued a proclamation that unlawful enterprises were on foot in the Western States, their object being a military expedition against Spain. That for this purpose sundry citizens were fitting out and arming vessels, collecting arms and military stores, and seducing honest and well meaning citizens under various pretenses to participate in such criminal enterprises. The President warned all persons engaged therein to withdraw from the same day without delay, as they would have to answer at their peril, and all officers, civil and military, were commanded to use their utmost exertions to bring the offending parties to punishment.

When the volunteers acted, Burr was counting on recruits from all of the Ohio country, on both sides of the river, as high up as Pittsburgh, and expected fifteen hundred militia to join him from Tennessee. He also counted on General Wilkinson in command of the United States troops on the western waters to open the campaign by an attack on the Spaniards. The local war against Burr, carried on by the volunteer army, lasted from October 6th, 1806, until December 7th, 1806, when Burr's army reduced to less than a hundred men fled down the Ohio river, not as a war expedition but to escape arrest. There can be but little doubt that the prompt and effective action on the part of the patriotic citizens of Wood County, defeated and frustrated the plans of Aaron Burr in his effort to separate the eastern and western states.

Had Burr been left to recruit his army during the pleasant fall months of October and November from the county seat of the Blennerhassetts, there can be but one conclusion reached, and that is that he would have pride loose the allegiance of all the hardy young men in the west who showed the greatest enthusiasm for the project, until the elder citizens in their wisdom saw what the intention was and rose to check the movement.

The fifth great crisis that was presented for the consideration of the people of West Virginia was the greatest that the world has ever seen, or the reason that it threatened all civilized nations, as it sought to destroy the plan of government outlined in the Constitution of the United States, which has become the model or all enlightened countries. It was the Civil War and the part that West Virginia played in it.

The more you look into it the more you will be convinced that the creation of State of West Virginia was the culmination of the idea conceived in 1776, to form the colony of West Virginia. West Virginia was to include all of the country within the following bounds: From the mouth of the Scioto river, a straight line to the big gap in the Cumberland mountains, and thence northeast with the living mountains between the western and eastern waters, to the western line of Maryland and with it to the Pennsylvania line, and thence to the headwaters of the Ohio River, and thence with the Ohio River to the mouth of the Scioto, the point of beginning.

In 1776, the disposition of the people of that boundary was to support the movement looking forward to American independence, and to gain for themselves the rights and privileges of a separate state. They were

restive under the rule of Virginia and longed to engage in the fight for liberty, under the Continental Congress, and free from an overwhelming state controlled by the luxurious and fastidious of the tidewater with whom they did not feel easy. Between themselves and those exquisite people there was a noticeable lack of sympathy and understanding.

In 1861, this feeling had not changed except to become more and more pronounced. In 1861, the border slave states were Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, Kentucky and Missouri. The only part of Virginia that bordered on free states was that part of the Old Dominion that is now West Virginia. When Virginia held an election for a convention to consider the question of secession, the votes of those counties which afterwards went to make up West Virginia, gave to that convention a decided majority to remain in the Union. But the place of meeting was in the city of Richmond, and the convention was practised upon until a number of the Union delegates changed and the ordinance of secession was passed.

It was in this emergency that the West Virginians acted again in support of the Constitution. West Virginia literally sealed the border, for all of the border states remained in the Union, and the West Virginians were not long in rising. The ink was hardly dry upon the ordinance to be submitted to a vote some weeks after, until the Clarksburg meeting was held, and that was followed immediately by the Wheeling meeting. The revolt in West Virginia in seceding from Virginia, and adhering to the Union was well under way before the May election on the adoption of the Virginia order to secede was held, and the next week the clash of arms was heard at Philippi.

But for this prompt action, it is all but certain that Maryland and Kentucky would have followed Virginia into the Confederacy, and that would have been a long farewell to all our greatness. The same West Virginia resistless was alive in the mountain country. The people had a decision to make and they made it quick and from the course that they pursued there was never any shadow of turning. They sealed the border.

It is also a matter of pride with the thinkers of West Virginia, that though the bewildered statesmen at Washington were most vitally concerned, that the bright idea of the Restored Government of West Virginia under the United States, was the vision of a West Virginia lawyer, John D. Nichols, of Brooke county. He was the man that laid down the course that won the case, though in after years many distinguished men contended for the honor.

The outline given in this brief address is meant to turn your thoughts to the subject. Perhaps it is just as well that in our ancestors that their nobility constrained them from claiming credit like a New Englander. But New England is right to glorify its own people. What may have been a virtue and modesty in those who are dead and gone becomes a duty to their descendants. And remember, breed is stronger than pasture.

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Special Tax Notice Due to the fact that we have been unable to hold over certain State funds that we have been holding up in former years, there are no funds available to pay the teachers of the county the first month's salary.

To offset this we have made a special effort to get the tax tickets made up early. They are now ready for collection. Any taxpayer who has not yet paid his taxes, can help out this situation by taking up his ticket in October. W. H. BARLOW, SHERIFF By C. C. Clendena, Office Deputy.

Fiduciary Notice The accounts of the following fiduciaries are before the undersigned commissioner of accounts of Pocahontas county for adjudication, to wit: The final settlement of L. N. Beverage, executor of the last will and testament of Uriah W. Beverage, deceased. The final settlement of M. W. Unlerwood, administrator of the estate of Mrs. C. E. Underwood, deceased. All persons interested will please take notice. T. S. McNEEL, Commissioner

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restive under the rule of Virginia and longed to engage in the fight for liberty, under the Continental Congress, and free from an overwhelming state controlled by the luxurious and fastidious of the tidewater with whom they did not feel easy. Between themselves and those exquisite people there was a noticeable lack of sympathy and understanding.

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Piano Culture I shall resume my classes in piano the week beginning September 10. All those who wish to study please notify me. MISS MARY FRANCES BRATTON Marlinton, W. Va.

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Fiduciary Notice The account of H. H. Beaid and Andrew Price executors of the last will of W. W. Beard, deceased are before the undersigned Commissioner of Accounts for settlement. September 17, 1928. T. S. McNeel, Com.

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No Trespassing All persons are notified not to trespass on my lands on the lands under my control in any way, under penalty of the law. Especially by digging, seng, hunting, fishing, picking berries, etc. W. McClintic Marlinton, W. Va.

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